



Weekly eWheel for the

# Rotary Club of St. Joseph-Benton Harbor



Michigan, USA • District 6360 • Chartered 1918

## SPECIAL EDITION

**MARCH 20, 2017**

A special edition this week as we traded in our lunch meeting for our annual celebration--Celebrate Rotary: Presidents' Night to End Polio! Special thanks to Kristi Aubrey, Mary Frey and the rest of the committee who organized this great event!

### A GREAT DAY TO CELEBRATE



A great time was had by all at our 2nd annual Celebrate Rotary event! We used the opportunity to celebrate the work of the club with fellow Rotarians and community members alike. We spread awareness about the Rotary International fight to End Polio Now, we acknowledged our past presidents, presented two Paul Harris Fellow Community Leadership Awards and most of all, enjoyed some good food, music and time with friends.

Award winner, Gary Bruce shared that when he joined the Rotary Club of St. Joseph-Benton Harbor in 1999, he met with club leaders and was briefed on the history of Rotary and what would be expected of him as a Rotarian. These expectations included attending regular meetings and paying dues...normal expectations of any club membership. Some expectations were more difficult though--the expectation to learn and live the Four-Way Test and to consistently put "service before self." As a Rotarian, you're told what being a Rotarian is all about.

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### IMPORTANT DATES

- ❖ 3/25: College Game Night at North Pier Brewing Company
- ❖ 3/27 Meeting: Jenny Miner, Big Brothers Big Sisters
- ❖ 4/3 Meeting: Matt Hanley, Vail Rubber Company
- ❖ 4/10 Meeting: TBD
- ❖ 4/11: 100 Year Celebration Steering Committee Open Meeting at 12 PM at Village of Shoreham Offices (BYO lunch)
- ❖ 4/17 Meeting: Essay Contest Winners
- ❖ 4/22: SAVE THE DATE! Highway clean-up volunteer day

# Rotary



## THE FOUR-WAY TEST

of the things we think, say or do

- 1 Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2 Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build **GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4 Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

## JOKE OF THE WEEK

HOW DOES NASA ORGANIZE A PARTY?



THEY PLANET



*Of Service Above Self!*

### WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Want to know more about the 100 Year Celebration that's being planned for 6/16/18? All Rotarians are welcome to join in on any Steering Committee Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 11 at noon at the Village of Shoreham Offices (2120 Brown School Road). Please contact Rick Villa at [rvilla@villaenv.com](mailto:rvilla@villaenv.com) if you'll be joining.



### CLEAN-UP SCHEDULED FOR EARTH DAY

Our Club has adopted Lakeshore Drive from Maiden Lane north to Cleveland Avenue through MDOT Adopt-a-Highway Program. This adoption requires that we participate in three clean-up days each year. Our first clean-up date has been set for **Saturday, April 22** which also happens to be Earth Day. The current plan is to meet at Shoreham Village Hall (2120 Brown School Rd.) at 9:00 AM for breakfast items and a short safety video. More details coming soon. More information (including participation age requirements) can be found [here](#).

Save  
the Date



Save the Date for the Annual District Conference!!!  
District Governor Bill Smith welcomes you to his Rotary District 6360 Conference, scheduled for May 12-13, 2017 at the McCamly Plaza Hotel in Battle Creek

Registration will be open soon!

**Interact**  
*Rotary Sponsored Club*



# COLLEGE GAME NIGHT

**Saturday, March 25, 2017**

at



**670 North Shore Drive, Benton Harbor**

**6:00pm**

to

**9:00pm**

**March Madness!**

**DR Trip &  
Community**

**\$15**

**Projects**

**Entry**

**Support Interact**

**FUN!!!!**

**FOOD!**

**Invite friends!**

**Beer! (for purchase)**

**BBall Games  
all evening!**

**Games**

**Raffles!**

**Prizes**



## NOW HIRING!

Club officer positions of secretary and treasurer will be open at the end of FY 17-18. With decades of years of service, Bob Peirce and Steve Ross will be retiring from these roles. They leave behind them some very big shoes to fill as they have served the club with the highest quality of work for so many of years.

Requirements for the positions will be provided shortly. The treasurer receives a \$100 monthly stipend and the secretary receives a \$325 monthly stipend. If you are interested in either position, please send your resume to Debra Trapikas at [tawana53@aol.com](mailto:tawana53@aol.com). Interviews will be scheduled for June with a board recommendation taking place in July. This will allow time for the incoming officers to work with Bob and Steve as they complete their term and to help maintain continuity.

## 2017 ROTARY TRACK MEET ADVERTISEMENTS

The 60th running of the Rotary Club of St. Joseph-Benton Harbor Track Meet will be held on Friday, May 5 at Benton Harbor High School. As in past years, we will have a program with all of the key records, event lineup, this year's honoree, and the participating schools. Additionally, we will try to have the program FULL of advertisements that we have sold.

The advertising sales are our club's key revenue source for this event and largely determines if we are able to do a little better than break even after we award the four scholarships totaling \$8,000 to four worthy athletes. Last year, through your great efforts and support, was our best year ever regarding advertising sales. We sold \$9,375 worth of advertisements!!

As mentioned each year, we make a concerted effort for sales to businesses outside of our Rotary Club but usually have little success. For example, last year we had one ad for \$100 even though approximately 50 businesses were contacted. As such, if we are to be successful again this year, we must rely heavily on our Rotarians that own/manage a business and choose to advertise in the Rotary Track Meet Program. The advertising Purchase Order will start appearing at the tables each week and at the badge box for your consideration. Your support is appreciated.

All of the relevant details are spelled out on the [form](#). If you have any questions and/or comments, please discuss with J.C. Anderson at 269-921-2513 or [anderjcna@gmail.com](mailto:anderjcna@gmail.com).



## STUDENT PROGRAM COVERED IN ROTARIAN MAGAZINE

A HUGE spread in Rotarian Magazine about the Rotary Student Program founded by our club! Congratulations to Jackie Huie for bringing this attention to our club and to this great program! Read the [full article from Rotarian here](#) and check out the [local coverage from Moody on the Market here](#).

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## **A GREAT DAY TO CELEBRATE** (CONTINUED)

But Gary acknowledged that there are others who embody those same principles and are not members of a Rotary Club who were given these explicit expectations. They personify these ideals because it is simply who they are. People who put great effort into making a lasting difference in the lives of others and who have made a major impact on their communities. These are people who give freely of their most basic resource, their time, to address problems in their community and the world and who live their lives in service to others.

The person that Gary was tasked with recognizing was Denise Bohn. Denise began her career as a local radio personality and later took her talents into television broadcasting as a reporter and news anchor. In 2015, she returned to Midwest Family Broadcasting and was ever present in the community. The game changer for Denise was in 2008 when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. The experience motivated her to use her broadcasting talents to support breast cancer research and in community activities such as Relay for Life and fundraising for the Susan G. Komen Foundation where she served as a member of the board.

Gary remarked "I remember Denise literally being everywhere. At Roger's Supermarket one day, publicizing a march the next, and running a golf outing or fundraiser after that. Her energy and devotion were boundless and her commitment inspires all of us, Rotarians and others, to spread goodwill, friendship and service in the spirit of Rotary's founder, Paul Harris."

Accepting the award on Denise's behalf were her parents Jim and Connie Bohn.

Our second Paul Harris Fellow Community Leader Award recipient was Nancy Racine and was introduced by Rotarian Mary Knast.

Mary described Nancy as someone who has done her work in a quiet way but has made a huge difference for many children and their families, particularly from Benton Harbor.

Nancy, with her family and their business, the Grande Mere Inn, has raised more than a half million dollars for the Readiness Center. She and her team have supplied and prepared Thanksgiving Dinner for the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen each year for many years. They've supported Sarett Nature Center, Curious Kids' Museum, Berrien County Juvenile Center, Krasl Art Center, Lake Michigan College, Child & Family Services and on and on. Generosity is a signature trait of Nancy's personality and Mary shared that she recently found out that Nancy and her late husband were even foster parents at one point in time.

They have mentored untold numbers of students and helped many aspiring restaurateurs gain better understanding of the restaurant business. In 2015, Grande Mere Inn even received the Michigan Governor's Corporate Community Leader Award, winning over finalists such as the General Motors Foundation. More recently, in her "retirement," Nancy started working with the SCORE organization to help mentor entrepreneurs who might need some assistance getting their fledgling businesses off the ground.

To say that Nancy and "Team Racine" are living legends in SW Michigan is an understatement. Using what they know best--good food and hospitality--they have made a profound difference for hundreds of individuals and many organizations in our community. Nancy Racine was in attendance to personally accept the award.

Don't forget--in 2018, our annual celebration event will be held in recognition of our 100 Year Anniversary. That date has been set for 6/16/18. Please mark your calendars!

## **WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE eWHEEL?**

Your weekly email is brought to you by Emily Hosinski, Jennifer VanBeck, Brandi Smith-Gordon and Lisa Cripps-Downey with photography by Jen Cole. If you have an announcement, a bit of news you wish to share, or a story you wish to see featured, please write to [RotarySJBH@gmail.com](mailto:RotarySJBH@gmail.com).

**Connect with the Rotary Club of St.**

**Joseph-Benton Harbor**

online at [www.sjbhrotary.org](http://www.sjbhrotary.org)



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